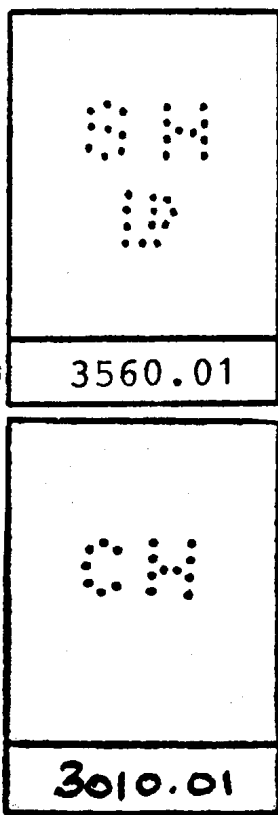


STRAND/REGENT PALACE/CUMBERLAND HOTELS

Rosemary Smith

Recently I acquired a cover with rather puzzling features. The stamps were KGVI light colours but showed two different dies. One was S3560.01 (SH/L^d), the others were C3010.01 (CH)., date 1950.



In Tomkins SH/L^d is the perfin of Strand Hotel Limited and CH the perfin of both Strand Hotel Limited and Cumberland Hotel. The identity on my cover was 'The Strand Hotel Ltd'.

JOHN NELSON has come up with the following information. *The situation in 1950 was that both Strand Hotel Limited (owners of the Strand Palace Hotel and the Regent Palace Hotel) and Cumberland Hotels Limited shared the same registered company address, 12 Sherwood Street Wl, and the same telephone number REGENT 7000. In fact the share capital of Cumberland Hotels was owned jointly by Strand Hotel Limited and J.Lyons Co. Limited so they were not technically part of the same group.*